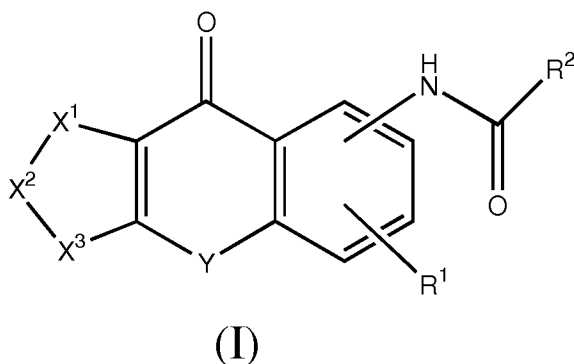


a.) Amendment to the Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) ~~An antitussive which comprises, as an active ingredient, a~~ A method for alleviating a cough, which comprises administering, to a patient in need thereof, an effective amount of a pharmaceutical composition comprising a tricyclic compound represented by Formula (I)



{ wherein R<sup>1</sup> represents a hydrogen atom, substituted or unsubstituted lower alkyl, substituted or unsubstituted lower alkoxy or halogen,

~~X<sup>1</sup>-X<sup>2</sup>-X<sup>3</sup> represents CR<sup>5</sup>=CR<sup>6</sup>-CR<sup>7</sup>=CR<sup>8</sup> [wherein R<sup>5</sup>, R<sup>6</sup>, R<sup>7</sup> and R<sup>8</sup> may be the same or different and each represents a hydrogen atom, substituted or unsubstituted lower alkyl, hydroxy, substituted or unsubstituted lower alkoxy, nitro, amino, mono(lower alkyl) substituted amino, di(lower alkyl) substituted amino, substituted or unsubstituted lower alkanoylamino or halogen], N(O)<sub>m</sub>=CR<sup>6</sup>-CR<sup>7</sup>=CR<sup>8</sup> (wherein R<sup>6</sup>, R<sup>7</sup> and R<sup>8</sup> have the same meanings as defined above, respectively and m represents 0 or 1), CR<sup>5</sup>=CR<sup>6</sup>-N(O)<sub>m</sub>=CR<sup>8</sup> (wherein R<sup>5</sup>, R<sup>6</sup>, R<sup>8</sup> and m have the same meanings as defined above, respectively), CR<sup>5</sup>=CR<sup>6</sup>-CR<sup>7</sup>=N(O)<sub>m</sub> (wherein R<sup>5</sup>, R<sup>6</sup>, R<sup>7</sup> and m have the same meanings as defined above, respectively), CR<sup>5</sup>=CR<sup>6</sup>-O (wherein R<sup>5</sup> and R<sup>6</sup> have the same meanings~~

~~as defined above, respectively independently represent a hydrogen atom, substituted or unsubstituted lower alkyl, hydroxy, substituted or unsubstituted lower alkoxy, nitro, amino, mono(lower alkyl)-substituted amino, di(lower alkyl)-substituted amino, substituted or unsubstituted lower alkanoylamino or halogen), CR<sup>5</sup>=CR<sup>6</sup>-S (wherein R<sup>5</sup> and R<sup>6</sup> have the same meanings as defined above, respectively), O-CR<sup>7</sup>=CR<sup>8</sup> (wherein R<sup>7</sup> and R<sup>8</sup> have the same meanings as R<sup>5</sup> and R<sup>6</sup> defined above, respectively), or S-CR<sup>7</sup>=CR<sup>8</sup> (wherein R<sup>7</sup> and R<sup>8</sup> have the same meanings as defined above, respectively) or O-CR<sup>7</sup>=N (wherein R<sup>7</sup> has the same meaning as defined above),~~

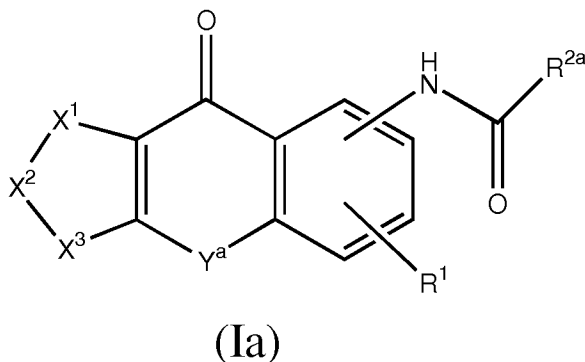
Y represents -CH<sub>2</sub>S-, -CH<sub>2</sub>SO-, -CH<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>2</sub>-, -CH<sub>2</sub>O-, ~~-CH=CH-~~, (CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>p</sub>- (wherein p represents an integer of 0 to 2), -SCH<sub>2</sub>-, -SOCH<sub>2</sub>-, -SO<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>- or -OCH<sub>2</sub>-, and

R<sup>2</sup> represents a hydrogen atom, substituted or unsubstituted lower alkyl, substituted or unsubstituted lower alkenyl, substituted or unsubstituted lower alkoxy, amino, mono(substituted or unsubstituted lower alkyl)-substituted amino, di(substituted or unsubstituted lower alkyl)-substituted amino, substituted or unsubstituted aryl, substituted or unsubstituted heteroaryl, substituted or unsubstituted aralkylamino, substituted or unsubstituted arylamino, or a substituted or unsubstituted heterocyclic group}

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

2. (Currently Amended) ~~An antitussive which comprises, as an active ingredient, a~~ A method for alleviating a cough, which comprises administering, to a patient

in need thereof, an effective amount of a pharmaceutical composition comprising a  
tricyclic compound represented by Formula (Ia)



[wherein  $R^1$  and  $X^1-X^2-X^3$  have the same meanings as defined above,  
respectively, represents a hydrogen atom, substituted or unsubstituted lower alkyl,  
substituted or unsubstituted lower alkoxy or halogen,

$X^1-X^2-X^3$  represents  $CR^5=CR^6-O$  (wherein  $R^5$  and  $R^6$  independently  
represent a hydrogen atom, substituted or unsubstituted lower alkyl, hydroxy, substituted  
or unsubstituted lower alkoxy, nitro, amino, mono(lower alkyl)-substituted amino, di(lower  
alkyl)-substituted amino, substituted or unsubstituted lower alkanoylamino or halogen),

$Y^a$  represents  $-CH_2SO_2-$ ,  $-SCH_2-$ ,  $-SOCH_2-$ ,  $-SO_2CH_2-$  ~~or  $-OCH_2-$~~  and or  
 $-OCH_2-$ , and

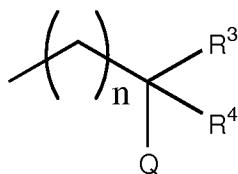
with the proviso that when  $Y^a$  is  $-CH_2SO_2-$ ,  $-SCH_2-$ ,  $-SOCH_2-$  or  $-SO_2CH_2-$ ,  
then

$R^{2a}$  represents a hydrogen atom, substituted or unsubstituted lower alkyl,  
substituted or unsubstituted lower alkenyl, substituted or unsubstituted lower alkoxy,

amino, mono(substituted or unsubstituted lower alkyl)-substituted amino, di(substituted or unsubstituted lower alkyl)-substituted amino, substituted or unsubstituted aryl, substituted or unsubstituted heteroaryl, substituted or unsubstituted aralkylamino, substituted or unsubstituted arylamino, a substituted or unsubstituted heteroalicyclic group, or a substituted or unsubstituted nitrogen-containing heterocyclic group and

with the proviso that when  $Y^a$  is  $-OCH_2-$ , then

$R^{2a}$  represents a hydrogen atom, trifluoromethyl, substituted or unsubstituted lower alkenyl, substituted or unsubstituted lower alkoxy, amino, mono(substituted or unsubstituted lower alkyl)-substituted amino, di(substituted or unsubstituted lower alkyl)-substituted amino, substituted or unsubstituted aryl, substituted or unsubstituted heteroaryl, substituted or unsubstituted aralkylamino, substituted or unsubstituted arylamino, a substituted or unsubstituted heteroalicyclic group, a substituted or unsubstituted nitrogen-containing heterocyclic group, or Formula (II)



(II)

(wherein  $n$  is 0 or 1;  $R^3$  and  $R^4$  may be the same or different and represents a hydrogen atom, substituted or unsubstituted lower alkyl, substituted or unsubstituted cycloalkyl, substituted or unsubstituted aryl, or substituted or unsubstituted aralkyl, or  $R^3$  and  $R^4$  may be combined together with the adjacent carbon atom thereto to form

cycloalkyl; and Q represents hydroxy, substituted or unsubstituted lower alkoxy, amino or halogen)]

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

3. (Currently Amended) The ~~antitussive~~ method according to Claim 2, wherein Y<sup>a</sup> is -CH<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>2</sub>-, -SCH<sub>2</sub>-, -SOCH<sub>2</sub>- or -SO<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>-.

4. (Currently Amended) The ~~antitussive~~ method according to Claim 2, wherein Y<sup>a</sup> is -OCH<sub>2</sub>-.

5. (Currently Amended) The ~~antitussive~~ method according to any of Claims 2 to 4, wherein R<sup>1</sup> is a hydrogen atom, substituted or unsubstituted lower alkoxy or halogen.

6. (Currently Amended) The ~~antitussive~~ method according to any of Claims 2 to 4, wherein R<sup>1</sup> is a hydrogen atom.

7. (Currently Amended) The ~~antitussive~~ method according to claim 2, wherein Y<sup>a</sup> is -CH<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>2</sub>-, -SO<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>- or -OCH<sub>2</sub>- and R<sup>1</sup> is a hydrogen atom, substituted or unsubstituted lower alkoxy or halogen.

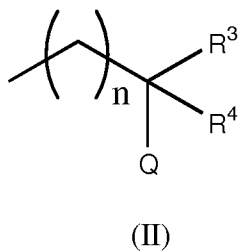
8. (Currently Amended) The ~~antitussive~~ method according to claim 2, wherein Y<sup>a</sup> is -CH<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>2</sub>- or -SO<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>- and R<sup>1</sup> is a hydrogen atom, substituted or unsubstituted lower alkoxy or halogen.

9. (Currently Amended) The ~~antitussive~~ method according to claim 2, wherein Y<sup>a</sup> is -CH<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>2</sub>- and R<sup>1</sup> is a hydrogen atom, substituted or unsubstituted lower alkoxy or halogen.

10. (Currently Amended) The ~~antitussive~~ method according to any of claims 2 to 4, wherein X<sup>1</sup>-X<sup>2</sup>-X<sup>3</sup> is S-CR<sup>7</sup>=CR<sup>8</sup> (wherein R<sup>7</sup> and R<sup>8</sup> ~~have the same meanings as defined above, respectively~~) independently represent a hydrogen atom, substituted or unsubstituted lower alkyl, hydroxy, substituted or unsubstituted lower alkoxy, nitro, amino, mono(lower alkyl)-substituted amino, di(lower alkyl)-substituted amino, substituted or unsubstituted lower alkanoylamino or halogen).

Claim 11 (Cancelled).

12. (Currently Amended) The ~~antitussive~~ method according to any of claims 2 to 4, wherein R<sup>2a</sup> is Formula (II)



~~(wherein n, R<sup>3</sup>, R<sup>4</sup> and Q have the same meanings as defined above, respectively).~~

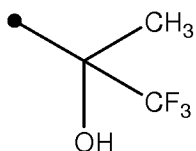
13. (Currently Amended) The ~~antitussive~~ method according to Claim 12, wherein n is 0.

14. (Currently Amended) The ~~antitussive~~ method according to Claim 13, wherein R<sup>3</sup> is methyl, R<sup>4</sup> is trifluoromethyl, and Q is hydroxy.

15. (Currently Amended) The ~~antitussive~~ method according to Claim 2, wherein R<sup>1</sup> is a hydrogen atom, Y<sup>a</sup> is -CH<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>2</sub>-, X<sup>1</sup>-X<sup>2</sup>-X<sup>3</sup> is S-CR<sup>7</sup>=CR<sup>8</sup> (wherein R<sup>7</sup> and R<sup>8</sup> ~~have the same meanings as defined above, respectively~~) independently represent a

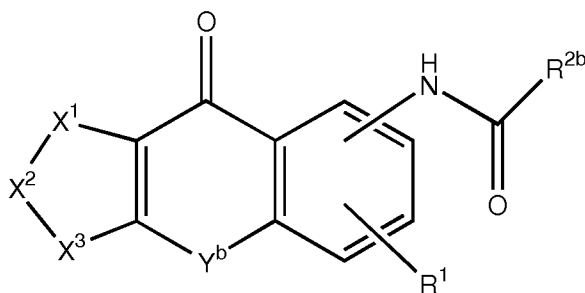
hydrogen atom, substituted or unsubstituted lower alkyl, hydroxy, substituted or unsubstituted lower alkoxy, nitro, amino, mono(lower alkyl)-substituted amino, di(lower alkyl)-substituted amino, substituted or unsubstituted lower alkanoylamino or halogen),  
and

R<sup>2</sup> is Formula (III)



(III)

16. (Currently Amended) ~~An antitussive which comprises, as an active ingredient,~~ A method for alleviating of a cough, which comprises administering, to a patient in need thereof, an effective amount of a pharmaceutical composition comprising a  
tricyclic compound represented by Formula (Ib)



(Ib)

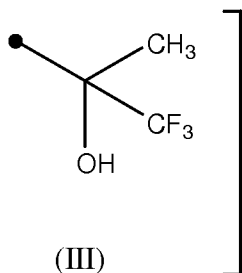


[wherein  $R^1$  and  $X^1-X^2-X^3$  have the same meanings as defined above,  
respectively represents a halogen atom, substituted or unsubstituted lower alkyl,  
substituted or unsubstituted lower alkoxy or halogen,

$X^1-X^2-X^3$  represents  $CR^5=CR^6-O$ ,  $CR^5=CR^6-S$ ,  $O-CR^7=CR^8$ , or  $S-CR^7+CR^8$   
 (wherein  $R^5$  and  $R^6$  independently represent a hydrogen atom, substituted or unsubstituted  
 lower alkyl, hydroxy, substituted or unsubstituted lower alkoxy, nitro, amino, mono(lower  
 alkyl)-substituted amino, di(lower alkyl)-substituted amino, substituted or unsubstituted  
 lower alkanoylamino or halogen, and  $R^7$  and  $R^8$  have the same meaning as  $R^5$  and  $R^6$ ,  
respectively,

$Y^b$  represents  ~~$-CH_2O-$ ,  $-CH_2S-$ ,  $-CH_2SO-$ ,  $CH=CH$  or  $-(CH_2)_p-$  (wherein  $p$~~   
~~has the same meaning as defined above)~~  $-CH_2O-$ ,  $-CH_2S-$  or  $-CH_2SO-$ , and

$R^{2b}$  represents Formula (III)



or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

Claim 17 (Cancelled).

18. (Currently Amended) The ~~antitussive~~ method according to Claim 16, wherein X<sup>1</sup>-X<sup>2</sup>-X<sup>3</sup> is CR<sup>5</sup>=CR<sup>6</sup>-O (~~wherein R<sup>5</sup> and R<sup>6</sup> have the same meanings as defined above, respectively~~ or CR<sup>5</sup>=CR<sup>6</sup>-S (~~wherein R<sup>5</sup> and R<sup>6</sup> have the same meanings as defined above, respectively~~).

19. (Currently Amended) The ~~antitussive~~ method according to Claim 16, wherein X<sup>1</sup>-X<sup>2</sup>-X<sup>3</sup> is O-CR<sup>7</sup>=CR<sup>8</sup> (~~wherein R<sup>7</sup> and R<sup>8</sup> have the same meanings as defined above, respectively~~ or S-CR<sup>7</sup>=CR<sup>8</sup> (~~wherein R<sup>7</sup> and R<sup>8</sup> have the same meanings as defined above, respectively~~).

20. (Currently Amended) The ~~antitussive~~ method according to any of ~~Claims 16 to 19~~ Claims 16, 18 and 19, wherein Y<sup>b</sup> is -CH<sub>2</sub>O-.

Claims 21-24 (Cancelled).

25. (Currently Amended) The ~~antitussive~~ method according to any of ~~Claims 16 to 19~~ Claims 16, 18 and 19, wherein Y<sup>b</sup> is -CH<sub>2</sub>S- or -CH<sub>2</sub>SO-.

Claims 26-27 (Cancelled).